


# Selecting the Right Alternative

Or, how to know when to  
quit planning.

# Selecting the Right Alternative

- First, Formulate Alternatives to Meet Resource Needs and Project Objectives
  - Then, Adjust Alternatives as Necessary to Fit Local Conditions
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- Decorative wavy lines in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# Selecting the Right Alternative

- Sounds Easy Enough, But Is It?



# Selecting the Right Alternative

- Know Your Clients
  - Type of Farm Enterprises Present Dramatically Affects Acceptable Conservation Practices
    - Cash Grain
    - Small Dairy
    - Hobby Farms


# Know Your Clients

- Contour Strip Cropping with filter strips may be most effective, and cheapest alternative to meet project objective
- But if your project area is dominated by Corn-Bean-Florida rotations, not much headway is going to be made.


# LB<sup>5</sup>

- Listen
- Be approachable
- Be open to suggestions
- Be flexible whenever possible
- Be firm when necessary
- Be patient


# Know Your Clients

- Open house style meetings do generate feedback
  - Formal meetings less effective
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# Know Your Clients

- Questionnaires can be useful
  - Neighborhood gatherings
  - One on one
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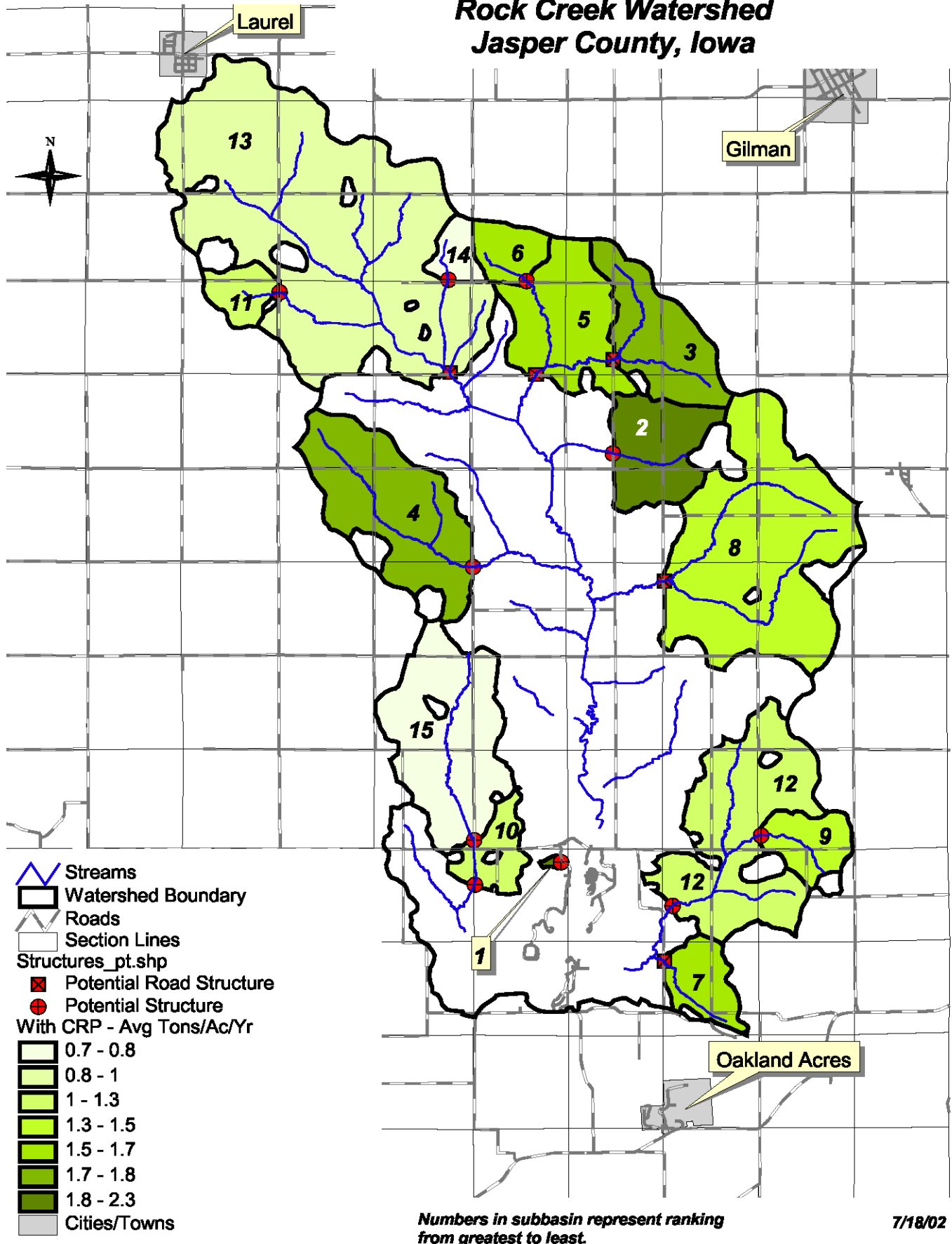
# Know Your Clients

- Utilize local sources for information and feedback
    - DC's and staff
    - SWCD Commissioners
    - Other project stakeholders
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# Cost Effectiveness

- Use simple economic analysis process to assist alternative selection

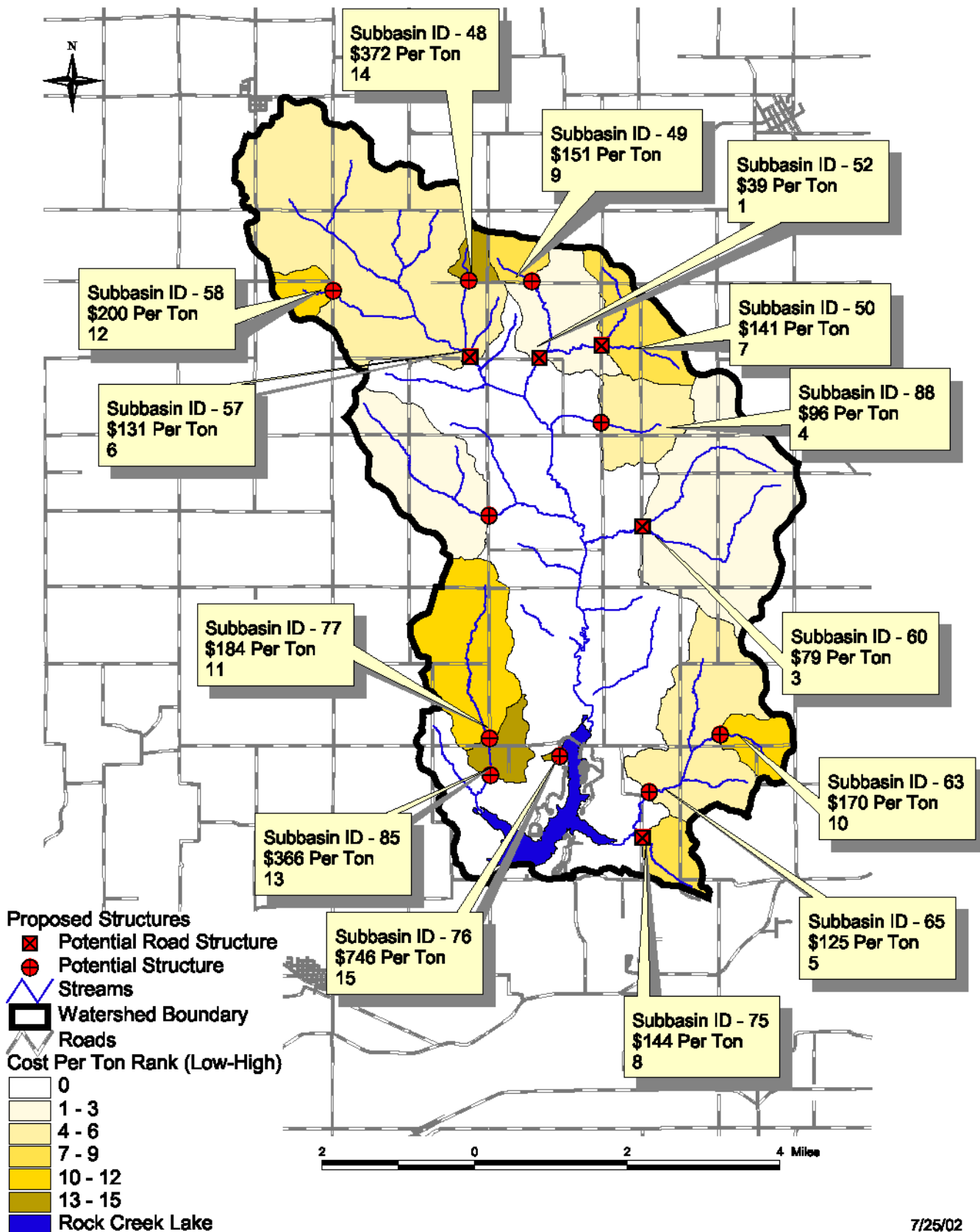
# **Tons/Acre/Year Sediment Delivered - With CRP** **Rock Creek Watershed** **Jasper County, Iowa**



Numbers in subbasin represent ranking from greatest to least.

7/18/02

# Rock Creek Lake Watershed Jasper County, Iowa Structure Cost vs Sediment Reduction



# Selecting the Right Alternative

- Selected alternative should meet project objectives
- Selected alternative should be locally implementable
- Selected alternative should be cost effective



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